

Environmental Restoration Project



Area of Concern (AOC) No. 1102: Former Building 889 Septic System (TA-I)

ADS: 1295

Operable Unit: Septic Tanks and Drainfields

Site History	1
Constituents of Concern.....	1
Current Hazards	1
Current Status of Work	1
Future Work Planned	2
Waste Volume Estimated/Generated	2

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Site History

Historical SNL/NM Facilities Engineering drawings indicate that this system consisted of a septic tank and seepage pit located approximately 15 and 35 feet respectively south of the southwest corner of the former Building 889. Building 889 was located approximately 300 feet south of the M and 14th street intersection, on the east side of 14th street. Building 889 was believed to have been demolished in the early 1990s and it is assumed that the septic system was abandoned at that time.

Constituents of Concern

Constituents of concern are unknown.

Current Hazards

No known surface hazards have been identified. Environmental characterization has not been conducted at the site; therefore potential subsurface environmental hazards are unknown.

Current Status of Work

The septic tank contents were sampled in 1992 and 1995. No information has been found to indicate that the residual tank contents (if any remain) have been removed from the tank.

A field inspection at the site was conducted in October 1999 and the septic tank and seepage pit were located and determined to still be intact. However, the interior of the seepage pit had been backfilled with soil, so the depth of the unit could not be determined. A backhoe was therefore

used in March 2002 to dig down along the outside of the seepage pit to attempt to determine the depth to the base of the unit. A hole was excavated to 13.5 feet (the maximum digging depth of the machine), but the base of the unit was still not reached. The total depth of this seepage pit is therefore unknown, and was estimated to be 25 feet for purposes of soil sampling. To determine if environmental contamination is present beneath this system and in accordance with agreements reached with NMED personnel, additional sampling was conducted at this site. A single soil sample boring was drilled down through and directly beneath this seepage pit in September 2002. Soil samples were collected at depths of 25 and 30 feet, and were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), total cyanide, high explosive (HE) compounds, metals, and radionuclides.

Future Work Planned

This site may be selected for deeper environmental characterization sampling if analytical results from the shallow sampling indicate potentially significant contamination at depth.

Waste Volume Estimated/Generated

No environmental characterization or remediation waste has been generated at the site to date.

Information for ER Site 1102 was last updated Jan 24, 2003.